



# INFLUENZA WATCH

2017-18 Season Summary  
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

The purpose of the weekly *Influenza Watch* is to summarize current influenza surveillance in San Diego County. This summary report reflects the 2017-18 season data.

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2017-18

**Highlights**

- Earlier season with record high volume of influenza detections reported.
- Predominantly an Influenza A season.
- Influenza A/H3 was the main influenza A subtype circulating.
- High number of influenza-related deaths, including two pediatric deaths.
- Majority of deaths were 65 years of age or older, with underlying conditions.

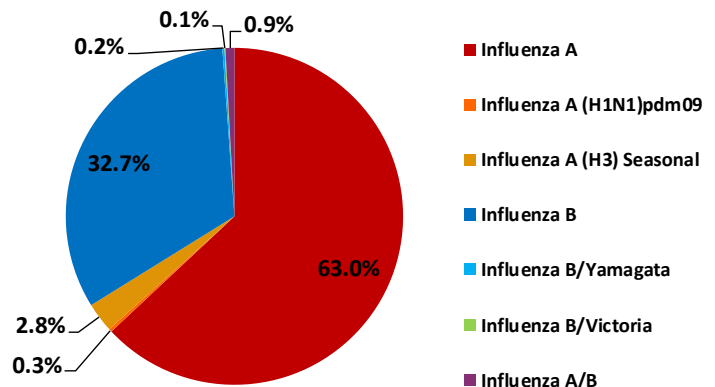
Season Summary

**20,833**

Total Cases

**320**

ICU Cases

**342**Deaths<sup>†</sup>**117**Outbreaks<sup>\*</sup>**Virus Characteristics**<sup>†</sup> Including 44 deaths less than 65 years of age, reportable to CDPH.<sup>\*</sup> At least one case of laboratory-confirmed influenza in a setting experiencing  $\geq 2$  cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a 72-hour period.**Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators.**

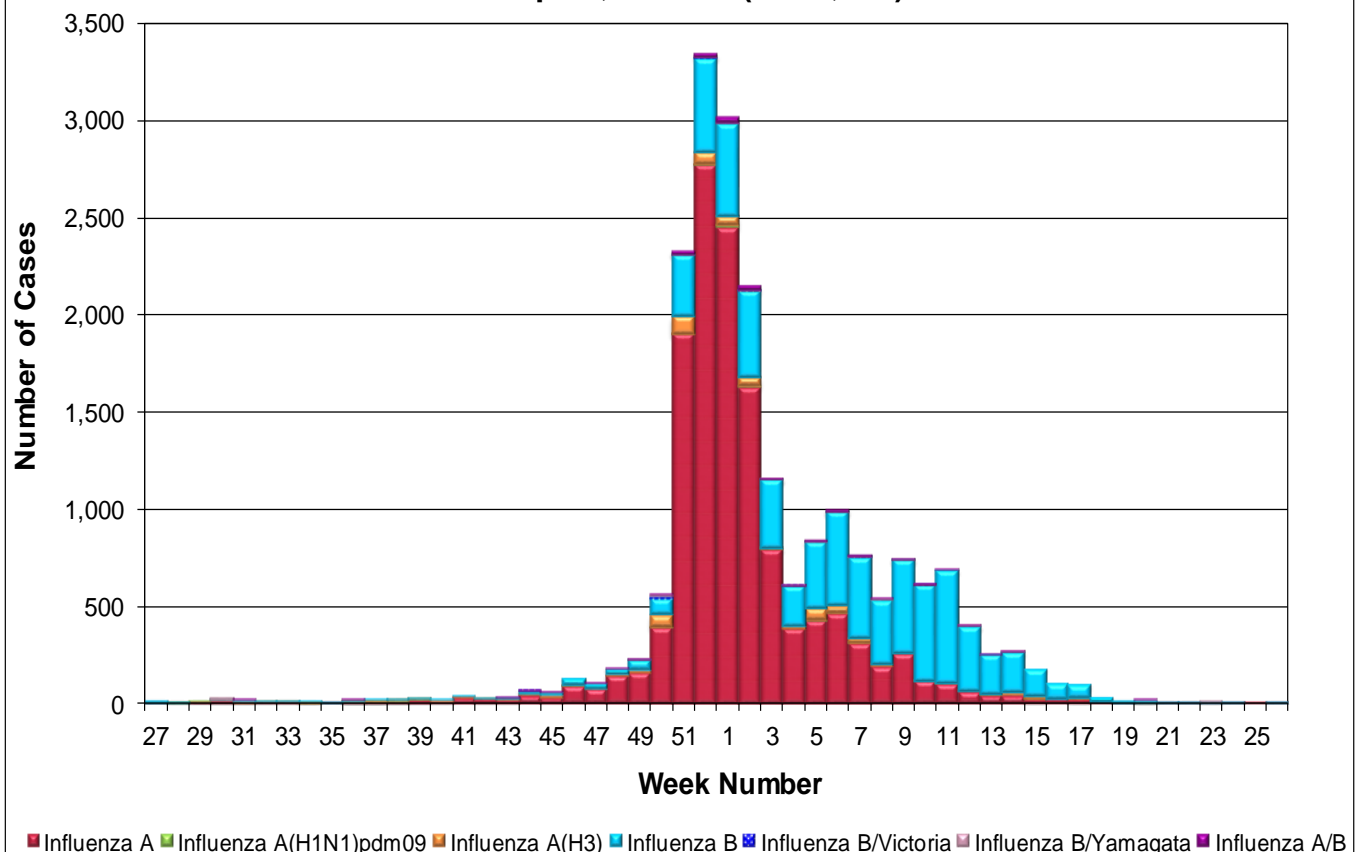
Surveillance Indicator	2017-18 Season	2016-17 Season	Prior 3-Season Average*
Influenza detections reported (all types)*	20,833	6,827	6,834
Number of influenza-related ICU cases	320	107	128
Number of influenza-related deaths reported	342	87	84
Number of influenza-related outbreaks reported	117	35	43

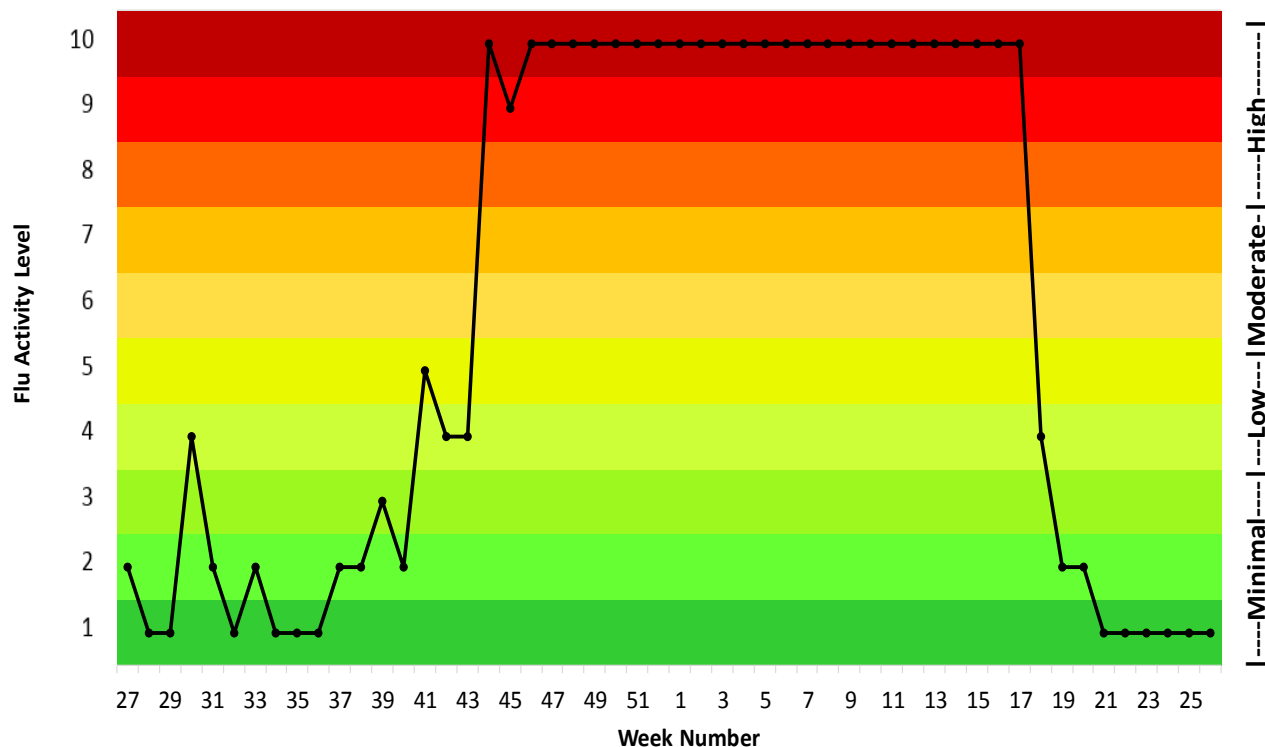
Season= July 1-June 30

\* Includes the 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 seasons.

**Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, 2017-18.**

Positive Test Type/Subtype	Count	Percent
Influenza A	13,128	63.0%
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	62	0.3%
Influenza A (H3) Seasonal	593	2.8%
Influenza B	6,811	32.7%
Influenza B/Yamagata	42	0.2%
Influenza B/Victoria	19	0.1%
Influenza A/B	178	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,833</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Figure 1. San Diego County Influenza Detections by Type and Week of Report, 2017-18 (N=20,833).**

**Figure 2. Influenza Activity Level: Number of Influenza Cases Reported.**

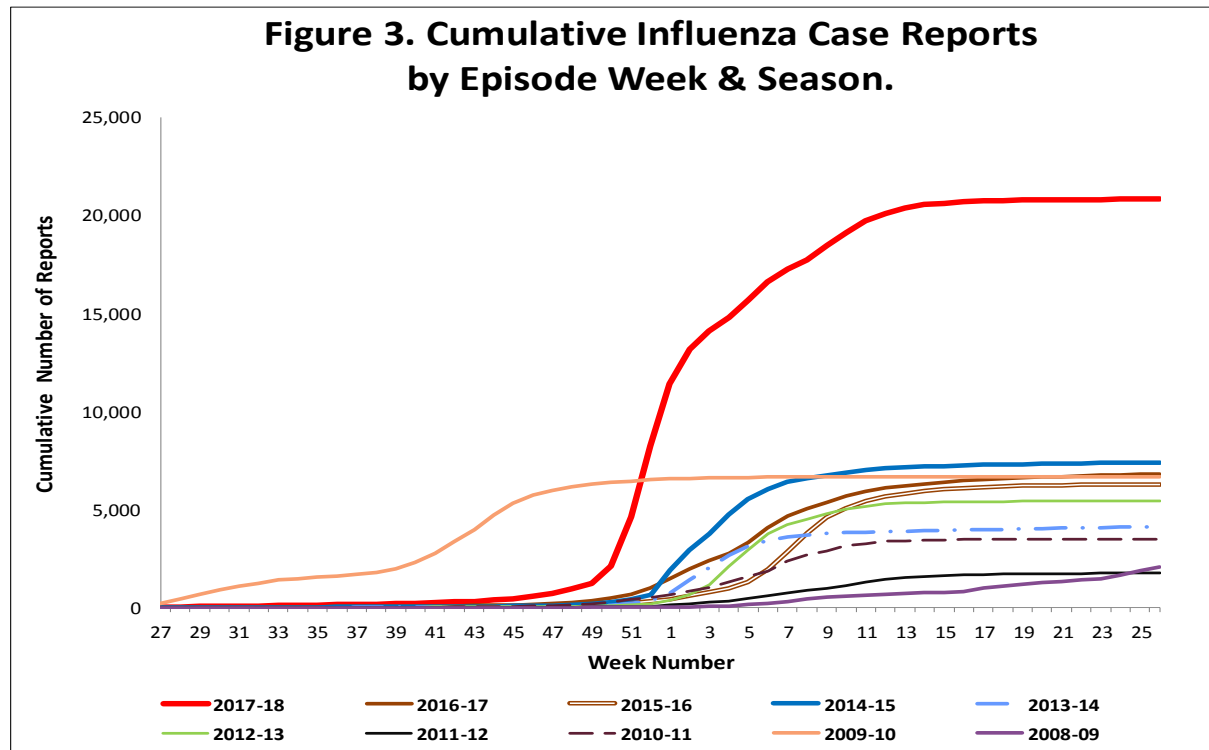
Activity Level Legend	Minimal			Low		Moderate		High		
	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6	LEVEL 7	LEVEL 8	LEVEL 9	LEVEL 10
	< mean	≥ mean and <1 standard deviation above mean	≥1 and <2 standard deviations above mean	≥2 and <3 standard deviations above mean	≥3 and <4 standard deviations above mean	≥4 and <5 standard deviations above mean	≥5 and <6 standard deviations above mean	≥6 and <7 standard deviations above mean	≥7 and <8 standard deviations above mean	≥8 standard deviations above mean

**Influenza Activity Indicator:**

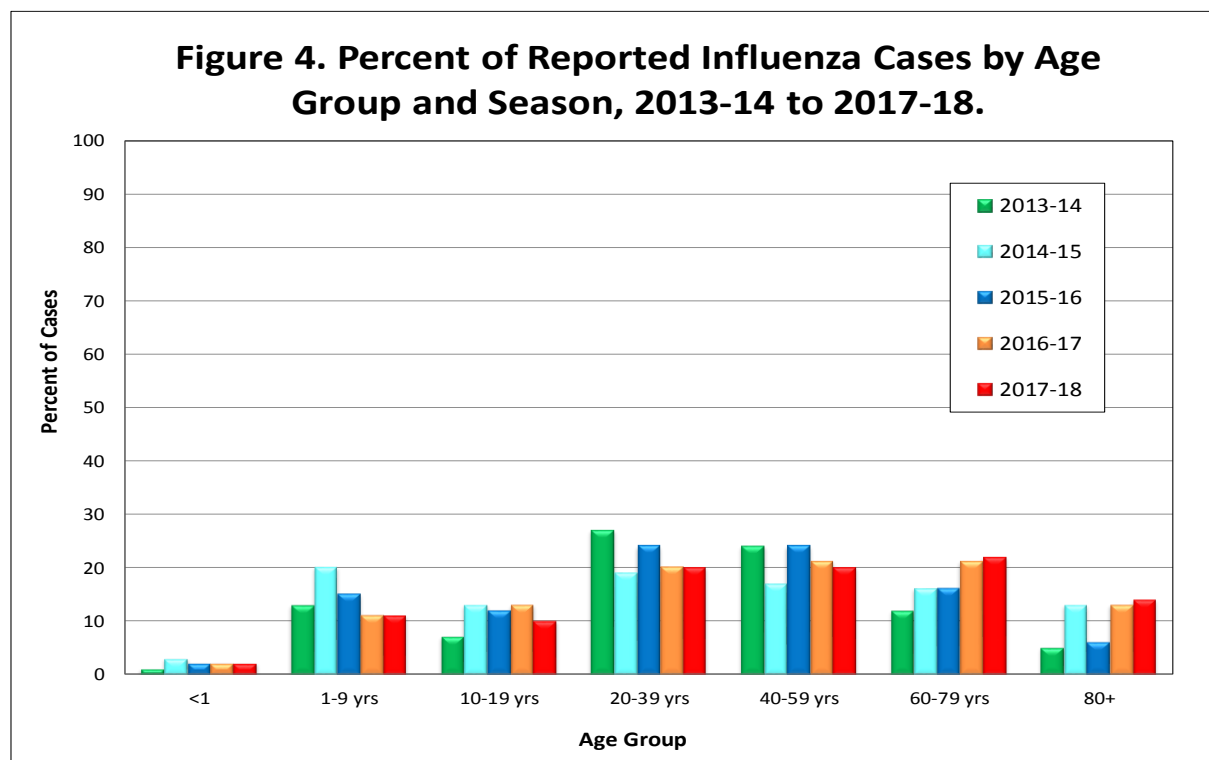
The activity levels compare the number of reported influenza cases for the current week to the mean (and number of standard deviations above of the mean) of the reported influenza cases during non-influenza season weeks (CDC disease weeks 27-39). There are 10 activity levels, classified as: minimal (levels 1-3), low (levels 4-5), moderate (levels 6-7), and high (levels 8-10). An activity level of 1 corresponds to a week having a number of reported influenza cases that is below the mean; level 2 corresponds to the number of reported influenza cases as less than 1 standard deviation above the mean; level 3 corresponds to the number of reported influenza cases as more than 1 but less than 2 standard deviations above the mean, and so on, with an activity level of 10 corresponding to the number of reported influenza cases at 8 or more standard deviations above the mean.

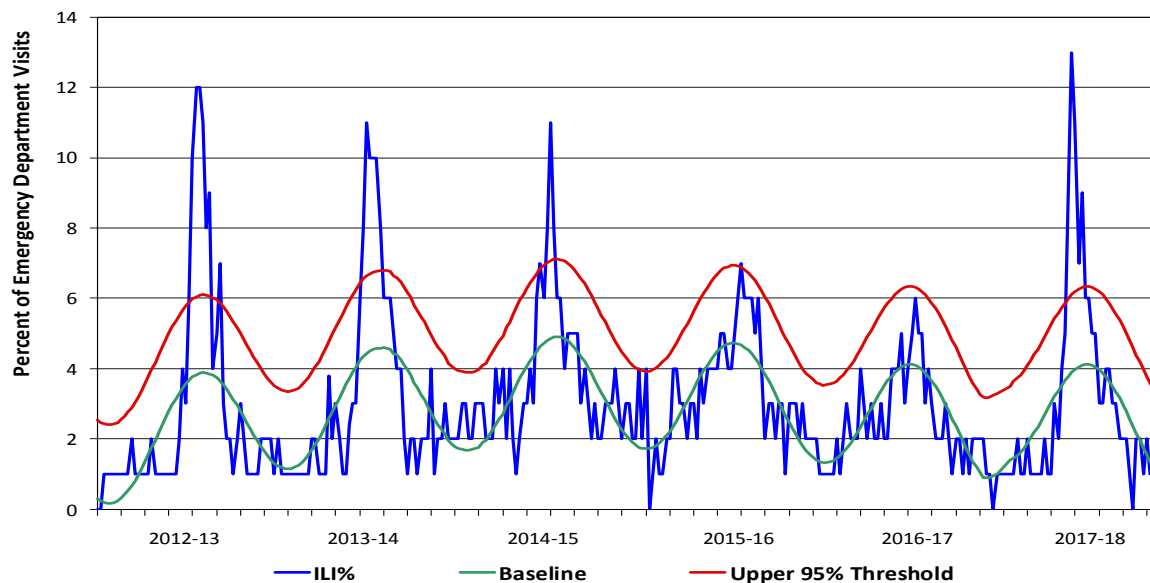
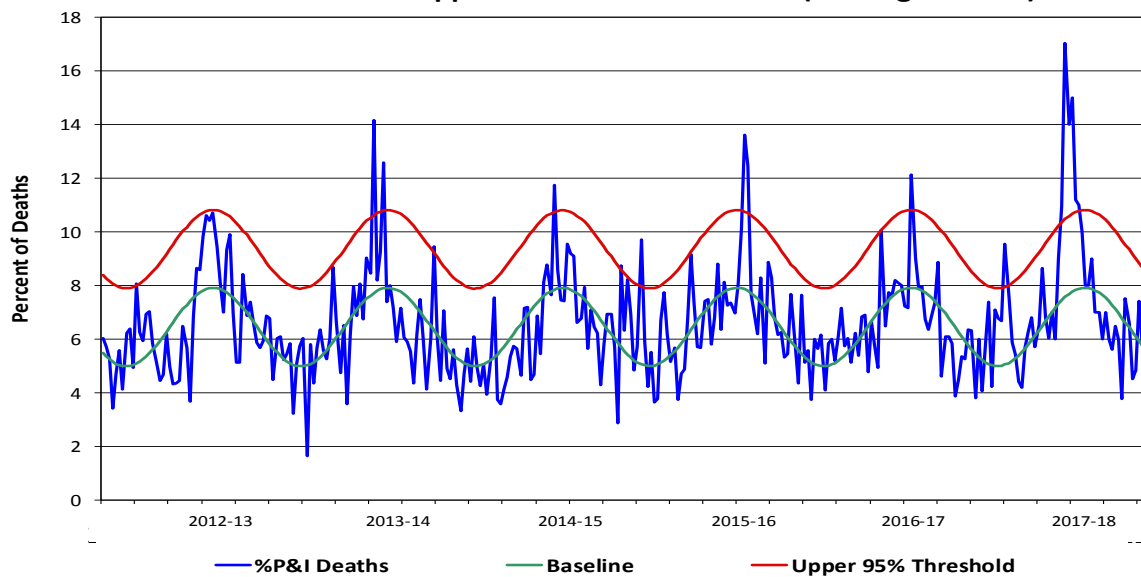
The number of reported influenza cases was at a “High” level for 26 consecutive weeks (weeks 44-17) during the 2017-18 season in San Diego County.

**Figure 3. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Episode Week & Season.**

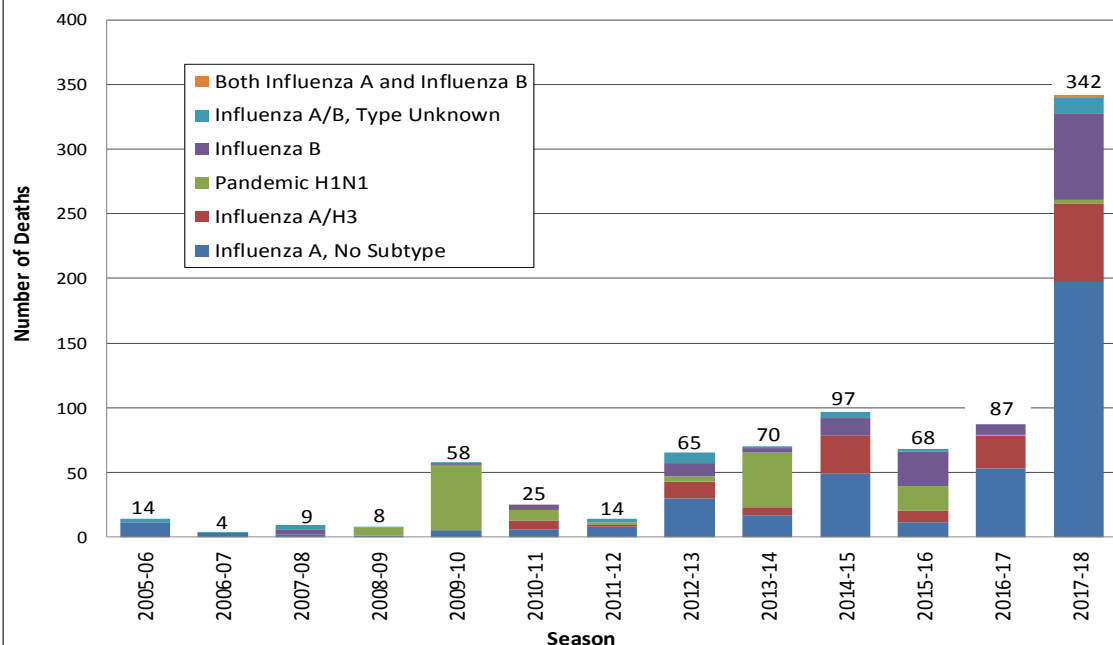


**Figure 4. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2013-14 to 2017-18.**

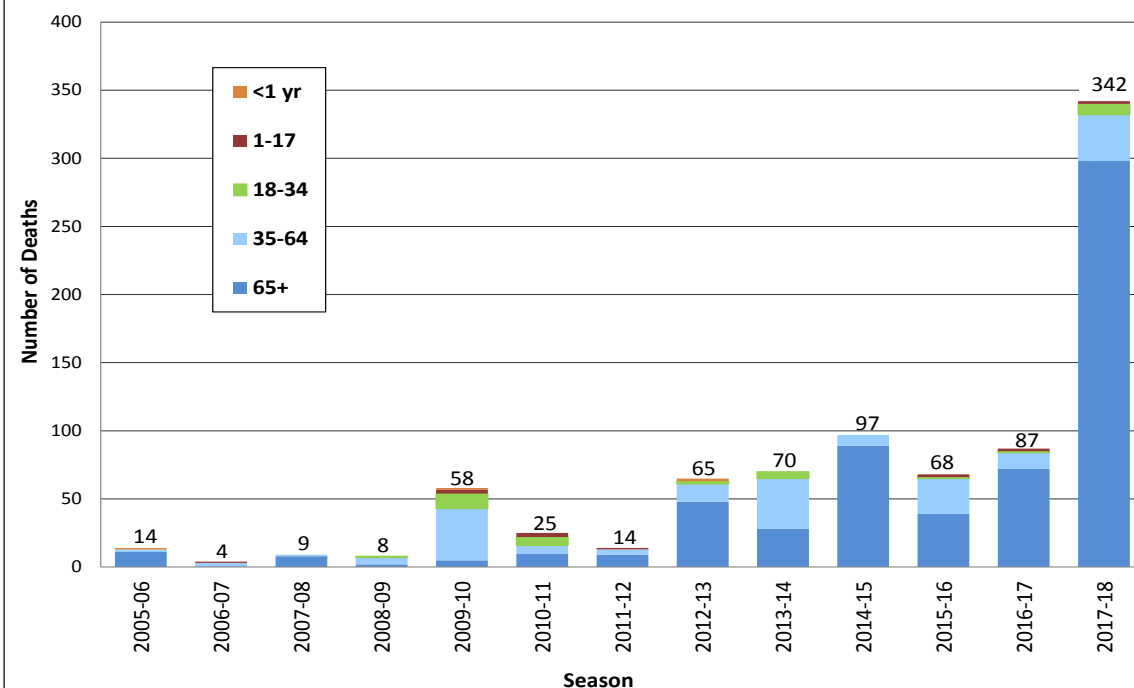


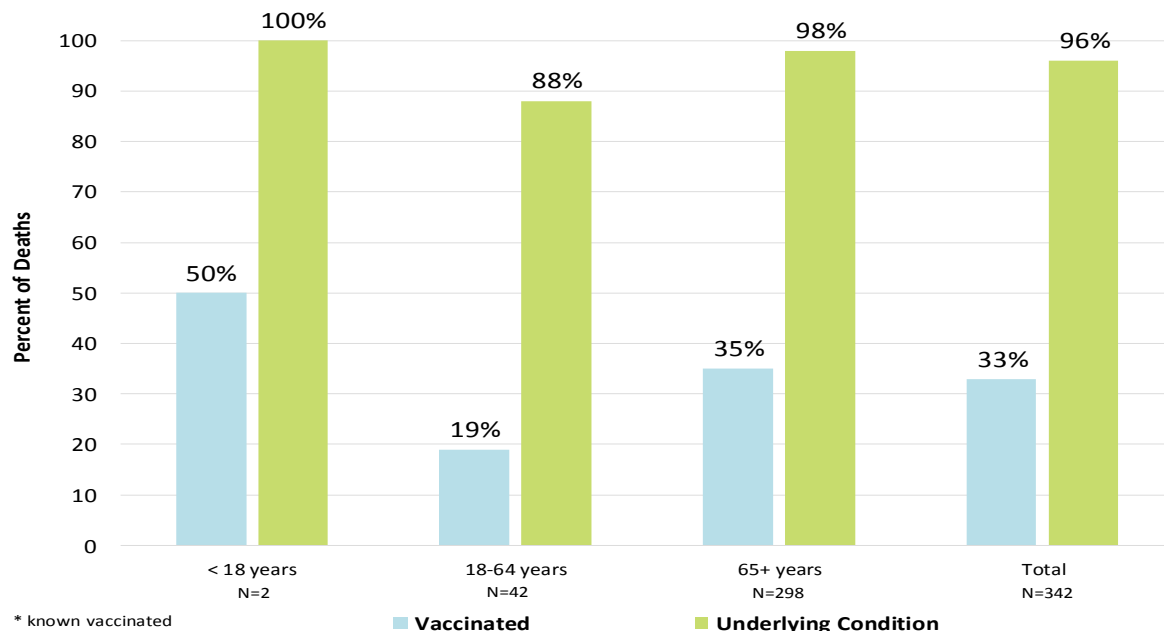
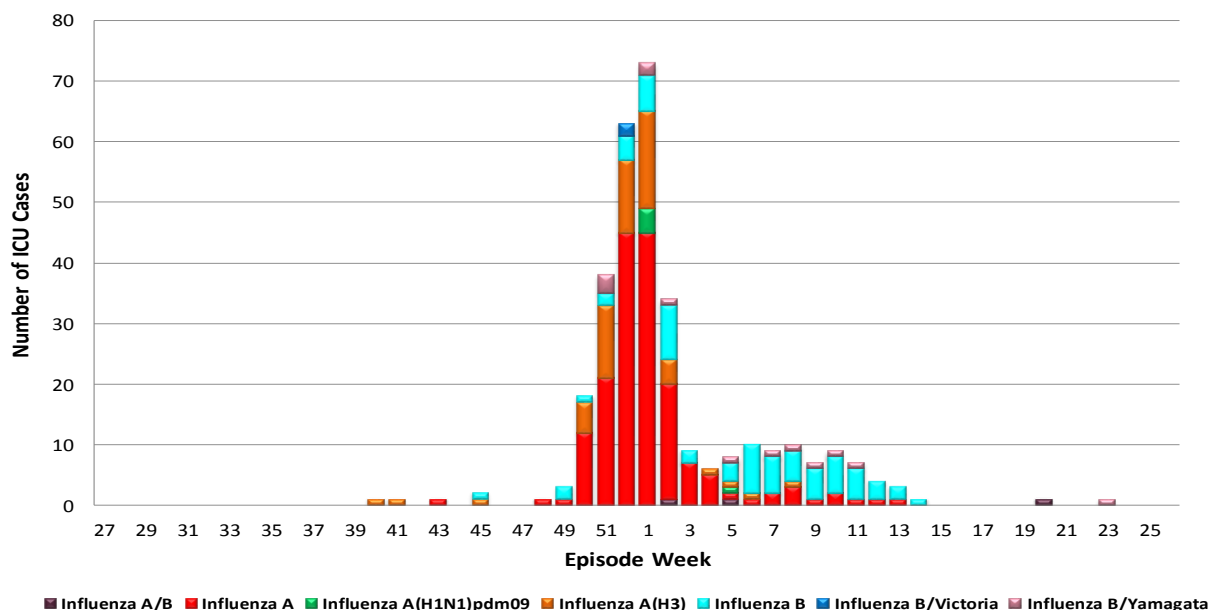
**Figure 5. Percent of San Diego County Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness by Week and Season Compared to 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method).****Figure 6. Percent of San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and Season Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method).**

**Figure 7. Influenza Deaths by Type and Season**



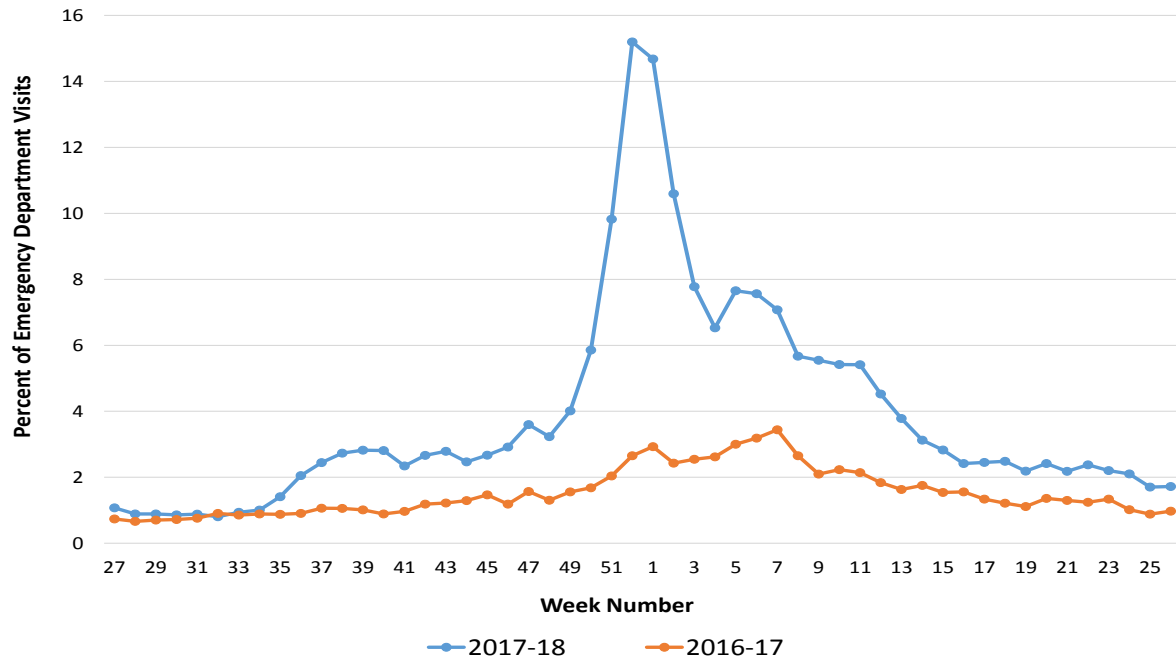
**Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season**



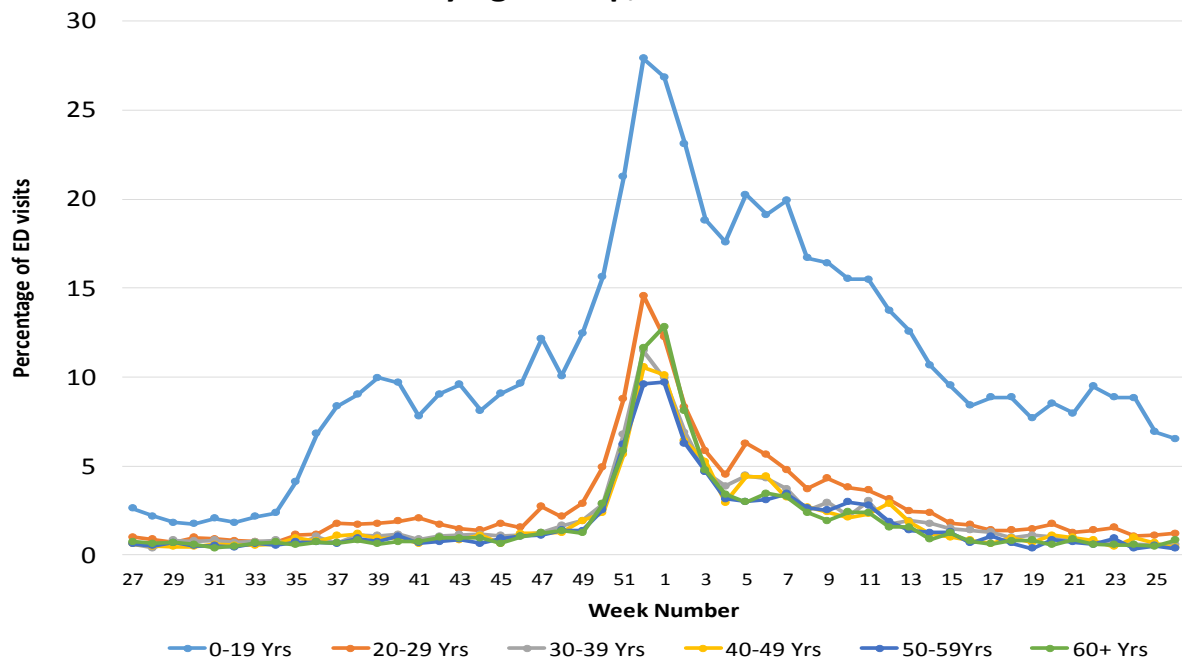
**Figure 9. Percent of Influenza Deaths Fully Vaccinated\* and With Underlying Conditions by Age Group, 2017-18.****Figure 10. Number of Influenza Cases Requiring ICU Care by Episode Week and Type of Influenza, 2017-18 (N=320).**

Note: Episode week is the week of symptom onset, or earliest available date in which the case is identified.

**Figure 11. Percent of Emergency Department Visits for ILI Chief Complaint by Week, 2016-17 & 2017-18.**

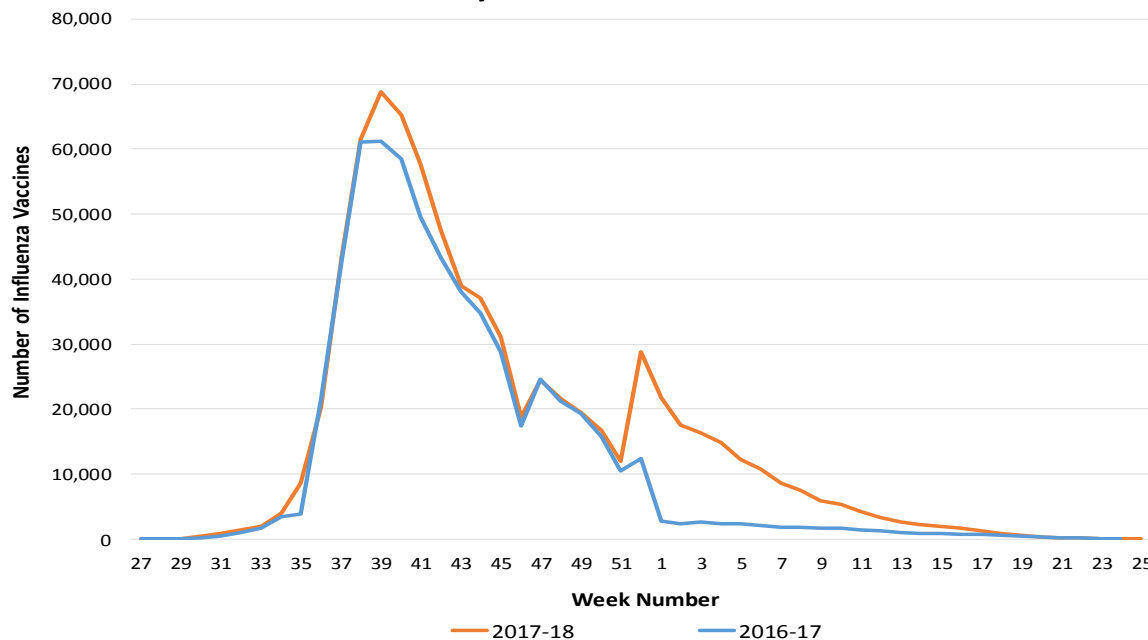


**Figure 12. Percent Emergency Department ILI Visits by Age Group, 2017-18**

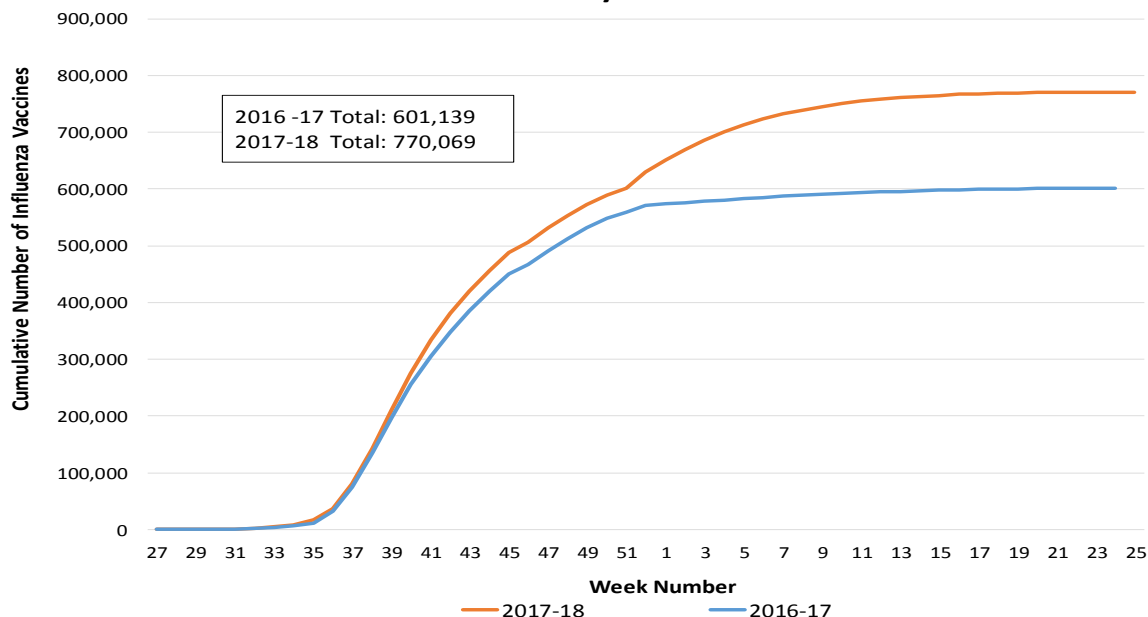




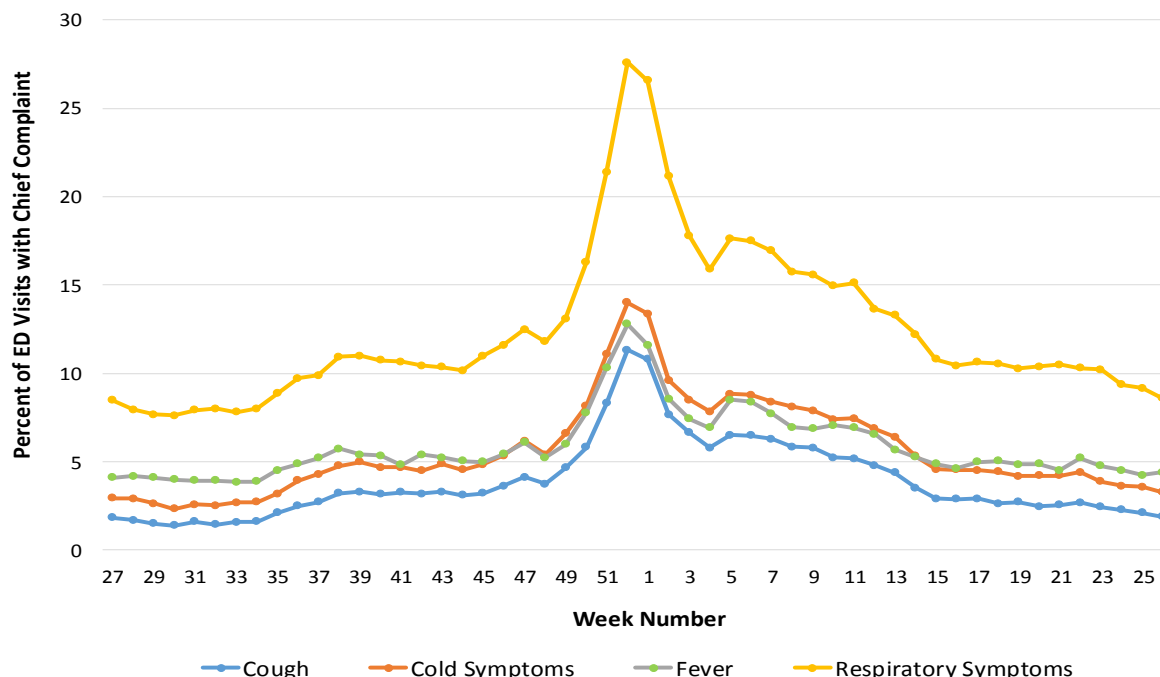
**Figure 13. Number of Influenza Vaccinations Administered\* by Week and Season.**



**Figure 14. Cumulative Number of Influenza Vaccinations Administered\* by Week and Season.**



\* Influenza vaccinations administered and entered into the San Diego Immunization Registry ([SDIR](#))

**Figure 15. Percent of Emergency Department Visit Chief Complaints for Cough, Cold, Fever, or Respiratory Symptoms by Week, 2017-18.**

### Influenza Surveillance in San Diego County

San Diego County Public Health Services' Epidemiology Program conducts year round influenza surveillance. Please contact us with questions at (619) 692-8499 or by email to: [EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov). Local providers are encouraged to report laboratory positive influenza detections to the County Epidemiology Program by FAX (858) 715-6458. Please fax a [Case Report](#) Form and/or a printed laboratory result, and indicate if the patient was admitted to ICU or died, and/or is a resident of a congregate living facility.

For questions regarding sending specimens to Public Health Laboratory (PHL), call (619) 692-8500. Click here for the updated PHL [PCR Test Request Form](#).

Click here to [subscribe](#) to the weekly Influenza Watch emails (sent during the season only). Visit the County of San Diego Immunization Program website for vaccination updates and resources: [www.sdiz.org](http://www.sdiz.org).